



"Go make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit." Matthew 28:19

On Our Recent Council/Staff Retreat

As you know, I personally believe that all churches have the same mission: to *"make disciples of all nations."* We talked extensively at the retreat about staying focused on our mission to "make disciples" and we talked about the distraction of becoming embroiled in denominational politics. It may seem self-serving, but I honestly believe it is God-serving for us to think congregationally rather than denominationally. After all, "we believe in the holy catholic church" which transcends all earthly denominations. We have always been pretty independent and I suspect we will always be pretty independent regardless of what our denominational alliance might be.

On Faith Community's Future

I have been asked a lot lately, "What is Faith Community going to do?" My standard answer is that "We are going to listen for God's call." I know that there is impatience on the part of some who want to know now what FCLC is "going to do." But you know what? The Bible speaks frequently about learning to "wait on the Lord." That is hard for an "I want answers now culture," but there is a lot of virtue in being careful and prayerful.

People who may be relatively new to Faith Community may believe I am being evasive. People that have been around here for a number of years know that I am being consistent and our focus will continue to be our mission "to make disciples" and that we will always be reluctant to allow ourselves to become embroiled in denominational politics. That is not avoidance; that is being mission-driven. As I said in a recent sermon, "Do you really think when we get to heaven that God is going to be concerned about whether we are Methodist, Baptist or Lutheran—and which "flavor" Lutheran? Or, do you believe that God is going to be concerned about whether or not we believed in the One who died on the cross for our sins?" Please, let's keep the "main thing" the main thing; knowing Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Savior, and following the call to "Go make disciples!"

On another note, it is no secret that our 7:45 AM service never "caught on" this fall. As I mentioned at our annual meeting last month, we maybe tried a little too hard to preserve a "dedicated" education hour. My guess is that an 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM (worship and Sunday School), and 11:00 AM schedule would have caught on, and that would make our schedule much less rushed!!! Do not get me wrong, I value education! But there is more than one way to value it. My dad's church had three Sunday school hours running concurrently with the 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM worship services. Was that ideal? No. Did it work? Yes. Life is rarely ideal. Now on the other hand, if someone has a million dollar check to hand us to get another building project started, then maybe we don't have to add a 3rd Sunday service—we can just expand the building. But in the meantime, like most large churches, we probably need three worship services on Sundays in order to make room for more worshipers. Praise God!

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On Our Core Values and Our Hospitality

Hopefully most visitors can spot our core values readily! "To be a church that is:

- 1) Bible-centered
- 2) Prayer-centered
- 3) Worship-centered with an inspirational blend
- 4) Kid-friendly
- 5) Visitor-friendly
- 6) A model of the Priesthood of believers
- 7) A model of first-fruits giving."

That's us, don't you think? Mostly, but you know what? Lately, we have had to confront the uncomfortable truth that as we grow, it may be harder for newer families to "break in" and feel at home than perhaps in the past when we were a smaller church. Please join me in reaching out to those who might be new in our midst...inviting them to Sunday school or to Bible study or the next fellowship event that you are aware of from the newsletter...or to join your table for Wednesday suppers.

On Our New Member Assimilation

Is it possible to grow too fast? Sometimes, and for churches that means losing new members out the "back door" while new people are coming in the "front door." Studies indicate that churches have about six weeks to get new members involved; after that it is much harder because they will decide they are not needed, or they will slip into inactivity, or they will simply slip away altogether. While some people are "self-starters" and they quickly jump into church activities, *most folks need encouragement and personal invitations to get involved.* While the challenge of this task usually falls primarily on church staffs and councils, truly it is best if we all work together to welcome and encourage the involvement of our new members. Thanks for your help in this vital ministry!

Your Partner in Ministry,
Pastor Dan

Vida Abundante Centro Cristiano

Translation: Abundant Life Christian Center



"Centro Cristiano" held our first Worship service at Faith Community Lutheran Church in January 2009. We have been worshipping at FCLC for an entire year! Since our first service, we have had several outreach services/events focused mainly in the Hispanic community. Our first event was on Valentine's Day. We have seen families stay and become part of our congregation!

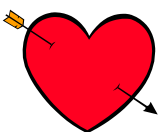
We normally meet three times a week. We continue to be a small group but have seen our group grow every month!

At every meeting, prayer, and service we thank God for allowing us to worship at FCLC and we ask that God continues to bless you all abundantly. We know that God is faithful, true, and keeps every single one of his promises.

Our church is composed mainly of Hispanics and our focus in 2010 is to work as much as possible. We hope to expand our outreach in our community, and to make a difference as well, so this means lots of work ahead for us! We are blessed to have very passionate individuals that are willing to work and impact our city. Longmont alone has over 20,000 Hispanic individuals that don't know Christ as their Savior!

Thank you, thank you, and thank you for everything you do, for your kindness, and for who you are!

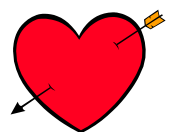
Blessings, Pastor Alfredo & Monica Rodriguez



Feliz Dia del Amor y la Amistad!

Translation: Happy Valentine's Day!

Sunday, February 14th, 3:00 PM



Centro Cristiano would like to invite all of us at FCLC to their Valentine's Day celebration and worship! It is an event for the whole family! There will be food, activities, and games for everyone to enjoy and participate in. It is free and ALL are welcome!

Blessings, Pastor Alfredo & Monica Rodriguez

The Season of Lent



Lent is a forty-day season of “preparation for the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ” which we celebrate on Easter Sunday and EVERY Sunday. Lent begins Ash Wednesday, February 17th, where we receive the mark of the cross in ashes on our foreheads as a reminder that we were created from dust and to dust we shall return. Lent continues for 40 days and culminates in Holy Week (beginning with Palm Sunday, and continuing through Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.) Please note that Sundays are *not* counted in the 40-day season of Lent because we celebrate Christ’s resurrection on Sunday EACH week. There is actually 46 days from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday in 2010. Three days after Good Friday, Jesus rose from the dead. The Good News! Easter!

This year’s Lenten theme is “MISSION: POSSIBLE.” Family, Hunger, World, Help, Fear, and Hope. We will explore these themes through our Lenten devotional and worship services. Lenten worship services this year will again include the Holden Evening Prayer and Lenten dramas.

Other events and activities that will happen throughout Lent include soup suppers, the Seder dinner, the Sunday School Easter Extravaganza, Easter breakfast (put on by our Youth to sponsor the Youth Mission Trip), Easter lilies, and spring cleaning (March 27th). Please look for more details in future editions of the Faith Communicator and on FCLCnews.

Schedule of Lent Events and Activities

Feb 17	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	Worship at 4:30 PM and 7:00 PM	Soup Supper 5:15 PM, nursery at 4:30 PM service only
Feb 24	Wednesday	Worship at 4:30 PM and 7:00 PM	Soup Supper 5:15 PM, nursery at 4:30 PM service only
Mar 3	Wednesday	Worship at 4:30 PM and 7:00 PM	Soup Supper 5:15 PM, nursery at 4:30 PM service only
Feb 28	Sunday	Begin Easter lily sales	
Mar 10	Wednesday	Worship at 4:30 PM and 7:00 PM	Soup Supper 5:15 PM, nursery at 4:30 PM service only
Mar 17	Wednesday	Worship at 4:30 PM and 7:00 PM	Soup Supper 5:15 PM, nursery at 4:30 PM service only
Mar 24	Wednesday	Worship at 4:30 PM and 7:00 PM	Soup Supper 5:15 PM, nursery at 4:30 PM service only
Mar 28	<i>Palm Sunday</i>	Worship at 8:45 AM and 11:15 AM	
Mar 27	Saturday	Spring Cleaning (time TBD)	
Apr 1	<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	Seder Dinner at 6:00 PM	
Apr 2	<i>Good Friday</i>	Worship at 7:00 PM	
Apr 4	<i>Easter Sunday</i>	Worship Easter Breakfast Easter Sunday School Extravaganza NO Sunday School Vida Abundante Centro Cristiano	5:00 AM to 7:00 AM, Sunrise Room

Soup Suppers Start February 17th, Ash Wednesday

WHEN:	Wednesdays during Lent, 5:15 PM - 6:45 PM
WHERE:	Fellowship Hall
WHAT:	Two different soups each week; fresh fruit; salad or cut vegetables; grilled cheese or quesadillas; desserts
COST:	No set cost, but we will be taking a freewill offering
HELP NEEDED:	Daytime kitchen help (11:00 AM - 1:30 PM Wednesdays during Lent)
	† Chopping vegetables, fruits, preparing soup.
	† Contact Sally Meier at sallyjmeier@yahoo.com
	Provide desserts
	† Contact Denise Parsons at parsonsd1@msn.com or
	† Contact Karyn Reed at karyn@grnbriar.com
	Evening help
	† The church ministries staff each week’s evening helpers. If you are not on a committee but wish to help, please contact Sally Meier at sallyjmeier@yahoo.com and she will get you connected.



As the team readied the fellowship hall for soup suppers, we noticed that we are missing one of our black/brown and clear cold drink dispensers. If you have borrowed this for an event of your own, please return it this week. Otherwise, we will need to purchase a new one to meet our needs.

Thanks everyone for your support of and participation in this wonderful fellowship event!

Worship, Devotions, Bible Studies and Classes

Crown Financial Bible Study

Join us for this 10-week Bible Study. It's not just about money!!!! Regardless of your financial position-this class is for you!!!

Intro/Informational Class: is Thursday, February 11th at 7:00 PM

Classes: begin February 25th, 2010 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Contact Ed Broestl or Susan Moller with questions and to sign up.

Crown's Mission:

Equipping people world-wide to learn, apply, and teach God's financial principles so they may know Christ more intimately, be free to serve Him, and help fund the Great Commission.

New Members Orientation!

The next New Members Orientation is Sunday, February 28th (6:00 - 7:30 PM) AND Sunday, March 7th (during Sunday School.) Look for more details in the bulletin. Please contact the church office at 303-776-8771 or by email at office@fcllc.org to get your name on the list to join us here at FCLC!

New! Proverbs Bible Study

- + Sunday mornings
- + 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM
- + room 103
- + once a month (3rd Sunday of each month) beginning February 21st



We all make choices. The guidance you rely on to make those choices is vital.

Proverbs: The Pursuit of God's Wisdom points to God as the ultimate source of wisdom and guidance plus gives practical ways to apply God's standards to every area of life. Each of the thirteen lessons includes a scripture passage, devotional, thought-provoking questions, and a challenge to go deeper.

Interested in this NEW Education Committee sponsored Bible Study? Contact nanette@fcllc.org by February 10th. Cost of the study guide is \$7.00.

Sunday School Memory Verse To Practice at Home:

Depend on the LORD; trust him, and he will take care of you. Psalm 37:5 (NCV)

Challenge Verse:

"Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need." 1 Timothy 6:17

Sharing Our "Loaves and Fishes" School Supplies for Samoan Children

The Sunday Schoolers of Faith Community Lutheran Church are continuing to collect school supplies for children in Samoa whose school was destroyed during the tsunami in September, 2009. New school supplies are being collected in the tub at the bottom of the stairs by the Education bulletin board. Deadline for donations is February 7th.

Our service project will culminate with a **Samoa-in-an-Hour** experience on February 14th during the Sunday School hour. We will be sampling Samoan foods, playing Samoan games, and hearing God's Word in Samoan. We will be packing up the collected school supplies that day too!

The 2010 Lenten Devotional is coming!

Devotionals will be available at the Welcome Center beginning Sunday, February 14th. Thanks to the commitment of 39 of FCLC's finest authors, all members of Faith Community Lutheran will have an easy-to-use, at-their-fingertips devotional tool to help them grow in their faith each day during the season of Lent. This year's Lenten theme is: "Mission:Possible."

As in previous years, there are specific weekly themes (Family, Hunger, World, Help, Fear, Hope) for which families will receive a related take-home reminder each Wednesday at the Lenten services. Come every week for the complete set!

Christian Education Dates to Remember:

February 14	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	"Samoa in an Hour" Sunday School
February 21	11:15 AM - 12:15 PM	Proverbs Bible Study begins!
February 28	6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Orientation to FCLC, session #1
February 28	Before/After Sunday School	Blood Pressure Checks
March 7	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Orientation to FCLC, session #2
	11:15 AM	New Members join
	12:30 PM	Luncheon for New Members, Council & Staff
March 13	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Sunday School Workshop Leader's Meeting (Room 103)

FCLC Events, Meetings, and Fellowship

FCLC Prom

For everyone OVER 19



Come join us for the first ever Adult Prom at Faith!

- + February 13th
- + 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM
- + Fellowship Hall
- + Tickets \$15 per attendee
- + Catered meal
- + Fondue dessert
- + Dancing
- + Picture memento
- + In-house babysitting

For more information, call Dawn Baas or Brit Windel at 303-776-8771. They may also be emailed at:

dawn@fclc.org, brit@fclc.org or
ypguybrit@gmail.com

Photo Directories—ARE HERE!

Our church pictorial directories are finally here! For those of you who had your picture taken by LifeTouch or who submitted a photo, you will find a copy of the directory in your mailbox. For those who did not participate in the directory, there are about 50 copies available for sale (\$5). If you are interested in one of those, please see the church office.



Why doesn't everyone get a directory? We have no budget for purchasing additional copies (\$6/each from LifeTouch). We do get some extra copies from "points" we receive based upon the number of families photographed. Since we do NOT have enough to hand one to every family, we are selling the extra copies.

If you do not wish to purchase a directory, you can still get a copy of the church roster via email. Contact office@fclc.org for further information. I am also hoping we will be able to get access to our directory information online (details to follow).

Thanks again, to all those who helped in the production of the directory and in the efforts to get families photographed! A special thanks goes to Kaydene Hubert, who did all the design and layout work!

If you have any questions, please email me at sallyjmeier@yahoo.com.

Thanks,
Sally Meier, Fellowship Chair

Youth Mission Trip

Do you want to MAKE a DIFFERENCE in the WORLD?
Then come join us at Workcamp 2010 in Parsons, KS!

Next Youth Mission Meeting
Sunday, February 14th
Sunrise Room - 226
12:15 PM (after 11:15 Worship Service)

If you want to participate or have any questions, contact:

Sililo 303-678-0138 swc258@yahoo.com or
Brit 303-776-8771 brit@fclc.org



Super Bowl Party



Who: 8th grade thru 12th grade
Where: Home of Matt and Melissa Barcewski
When: Sunday, February 7th
Time: 3:30 PM - 8:00 PM
What: Guys bring drinks
Girls bring snacks

Questions: email Brit at brit@fclc.org or call the church office at 303-776-8771.

Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction



HELP Support your Youth as they prepare themselves for their Mission Trip to serve the community of Parsons, KS. next summer. They are putting together a Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction on:

Friday, February 26th
5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Proceeds will help us get one step closer to Kansas.

Bring your family, friends and neighbors and let us serve and give you a good time.

Our Youth will be selling tickets after each service.



FCLC Events, Meetings, and Fellowship...(cont)

Father Son Retreat

Friday, June 18th, 7:00 PM to
Saturday, June 19th, 9:00 PM

Where: Highlands Presbyterian Park
Staying in Cabins and Lodges for the weekend
Meals Provided

Cost: \$140 for single attendee
\$125 a person for Father(s) and son(s)

Join us for our first annual Father Son Retreat. We will be having an amazing weekend of great food, fellowship, games, outside fun, and great challenges as we hear from speakers on the topic of Manhood: What does it look like to be a Godly Father, Son, Husband, Friend in all the areas of our lives. You will not want to miss this time. It is open from ages 12 and up to 100! Get signed up today for this great retreat. Sons, invite your fathers! Fathers, invite your dads and sons.

The guest speaker will be Pastor Ted Cunningham, author of *From Anger to Intimacy* and Speaker for the Smally Marriage and Family Institute.

Email Brit Windel at Brit@fcl.org for more info or to sign up. You may also sign up in the church office. Make Checks Payable to Faith Community Lutheran Church and put "Father Son Retreat" in the memo.

Brit Windel
Youth & Family Director

cell: 405-570-5501

office: 303-776-8771

<http://www.ypguybrit.wordpress.com>

Attendance and Finance

Worship Attendance Week 4 January 23 rd & 24 th		
	2010	2009
Sat 5:30	85	70
Sun 8:45	239	200
Sun 11:15	<u>232</u>	<u>268</u>
Total	556	538
2010 Average Attendance to date: 567		
2010 Sunday School Attendance: 211 / 93 A		
2009 Average Attendance to date: 550		
2009 Sunday School Attendance: 194 / 91 A		

Worship Attendance Week 5 January 16 th & 17 th (Martin Luther King Wknd)		
	2010	2009
Sat 5:30	85	106
Sun 8:45	299	253
Sun 11:15	<u>153</u>	<u>238</u>
Total	537	597
2010 Average Attendance to date: 561		
2010 Sunday School Attendance: 215 / 102 A		
2009 Average Attendance to date: 559		
2009 Sunday School Attendance: 218 / 87 A		

Treasurer's Report through 12/31/09			
	2009	2008	2007
Budget YTD	\$893,880	\$805,625	\$710,827
General Offering YTD	\$834,505	\$753,364	\$659,184
Expenses YTD	\$833,843	\$753,211	\$659,385
Needed per week	\$17,187	\$15,493	\$13,670
Received per week	\$16,048	\$14,485	\$12,680

FCLC Nursery Help Needed!



The nursery is in need of servants for Good Friday and Easter Sunday. I know it seems early but if you could look ahead at your schedule and let me know if you would be able to serve I would be very appreciative. Please contact Natalie at nboguess01@hotmail.com. Thank you!

Helping Our Neighbors Around The World

Outreach to Haiti

Thank you so much for the \$9,919.00 that was donated for the earthquake relief in Haiti. \$5,659.00 was specifically designated for "HTF" (Haitian Timoun Foundation) per Ben Mason's request during his faith journey on January 23rd and 24th.



The Outreach Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, February 9th at 7:00 PM to discuss how the remaining \$4,270.00 will be distributed. We invite you to join us at the meeting to discuss this (and all our Outreach issues.) There are multiple foundations and outreach organizations that already have support systems in place in Haiti. We plan to discuss donations to at least one of the following organizations at the Outreach meeting as possible candidates for the money that you have donated: Haitian Timoun Foundation "HTF", ELCA Disaster Response, Compassion International, Samaritan's Purse, and Lutheran World Relief.

Helping Our Neighbors...



Weekly Food Drive in February

FCLC's Annual Food Drive for the OUR Center happens again in February. You can make a difference! Each week in February, we have a goal of collecting a certain type of non-perishable food or personal care item (listed below). All donated items can be dropped off in the grocery cart in the Fellowship Hall. It will all go to the OUR Center to be distributed to those in need within St. Vrain Valley.



- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| † Week 2 (Feb 8 th -14 th) | † Week 3 (Feb 15 th -21 st) = Baby Items | † Week 4 (Feb 22 nd -28 th) = Personal Care Items |
| † Mac/Cheese | † Baby Food/Formula | † Shampoo |
| † Pasta | † Diapers (size 3-6) | † Deodorant |
| † Rice and Beans | † Wipes (unscented) | † Toothpaste and Toothbrushes |
| | | † Toilet Paper |

Linens/Sheet Donations Needed



FCLC Outreach is sponsoring one of the Briarwood units through the OUR Center. Each unit has three twin beds in it to help temporarily house (< 3 months) up to three people in need. This support means that we will provide a set of twin sheets (including pillowcases) and a set of towels for each new client that stays there. If you have any new/used towels, twin/queen sheets, or comforters that you would like to donate, please contact Tami Musfeldt at tami.m@comcast.net or 303-494-4036.

OUR Center Lunches

FCLC Outreach is excited to be sponsoring the OUR Center lunches again for 2010! This year, we are serving lunch to those in need on *five* different dates. For each date, we need eight volunteers to help prepare, serve, and clean up the meal from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. If you are interested in helping, please contact Tami Musfeldt at tami.m@comcast.net or 303-494-4036.

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| † Sat, Feb 20 | † Sun, Oct 3 |
| † Sat, May 15 | † Sat, Dec 4 |
| † Sat, Aug 28 | |

Your Outreach Dollars at Work

Shekinah Christian Ministries

"I was in prison and you came to visit Me..." Matthew 25:36

Shekinah Christian Ministry is located at 2040 Terry Street in Longmont. They have ministered in prisons throughout Colorado and Wyoming for over thirty years. Their mission: To Share the Gospel with prisoners so they can find real freedom through that knowledge; redirecting them from destructive patterns and encouraging them to find true purpose.

Men and women who are released from a prison facility are usually in need of some form of transportation. If you have an old bike that is taking up precious space in your garage, they would be happy to take it off your hands. Pick up is available by request. Call 303-682-9593.

Stover's Project: Longmont Connection

Please save Friday Night, March 5th, from 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM. We will be attending a "meal and worship in the park" event for the homeless in Longmont. Nancy Tway from our congregation has been a part of homeless ministry in Longmont for several years and is our contact person for this venture. This event takes place every Friday night in a nearby park in Longmont. An organization called Common Cathedral hosts this weekly gathering. We are going to attend this, rub shoulders, eat, and worship with our brothers and sisters who are homeless. We will gather at FCLC at 5:45 PM and travel from there. Those going on the Stover's Project in Minnesota next month will join members from our congregation interested in Homeless ministry. Please find a sign up for this event at the welcome center beginning Sunday, February 14th. Although we encourage ages 16 and up to join us, if you and your family would like to attend this, please do!

Questions? Please contact Nancy Tway at 303-651-7253.

BIRTHDAYS

<u>February 7</u> Jamie Wallace-Vigil Ashton Hubert Zachary Francis	<u>February 11</u> Jennifer Major Caleb Mendez	<u>February 15</u> Laura Carver Brenda Shelton Stephani Vaughn	<u>February 18</u> Don Janssen Wade Fott Andy Buderus Kathryn Mathiesen
<u>February 8</u> Bob Reed Gregg Mau	<u>February 12</u> Peter Mertz Reiley Krafczyk	<u>February 16</u> Kendall Storaci	<u>February 19</u> Charlotte Nelson Marvin Heimbichner Braden Wormke
<u>February 9</u> Michelle Buderus	<u>February 13</u> Harlan Olson Diana Phelan Kalev Kallas Trey Tatham	<u>February 17</u> Beverly Davis Mark Datte Rhea Hoops Heather Gomez Mehelani Bowman	<u>February 20</u> Marcie Mason Michael Sell
<u>February 10</u> Nancy Tway Donna Smith Mitchell Parsons	<u>February 14</u> Larry Polsdofer Michael O'Grady Ryan Chaney		

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

<u>February 10</u> Glenn and Sylvia Uecker - 49 years Robert and Natalie Boggess - 9 years	<u>February 12</u> Todd and Tyger Penson - 50 years
<u>February 11</u> Korey and Melanie Patterson - 5 years	<u>February 16</u> Neal and Laura Carver - 30 years

Community Events



Habitat for Humanity of the St. Vrain Valley invites you to: An Apostle's Build Dedication Day

- † Saturday February 13th
- † 1:00 PM
- † At the Mireles' new home
- † 239 Sweet Valley Ct., Mill Village Development
- † Longmont, CO 80501
- † (South Hwy 119 and 3rd Ave in Eastern Longmont)
- † ***We need volunteers to bring a potluck dish***

All are welcome as we celebrate this first ever Apostle's Build for the HfH of the St. Vrain Valley. All churches will be represented. For more information contact Mike Krantz at 303-819-4985 or manthonyk@hotmail.com.



Come join the Mireles' family in celebration of their new home



Lutheran Marriage Encounter will be sponsoring a Romantic Dinner on Saturday, March 13, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

The dinner will be held at Lord of the Hills Lutheran Church, which is located at 21755 East Smoky Hill Road (near Southlands Mall) in Centennial.

You and your spouse are cordially invited to attend. Come and enjoy a wonderful dinner and get a taste of a Marriage Encounter Weekend.

Childcare will be provided. Space is limited; RSVP is required, so contact us soon. We hope to see you there!

To RSVP please contact John & Jennifer Pettinger at 303-969-9613 or Bud & Cindy Amack at 303-796-9119.

Kids Hope USA



In an effort to introduce you to the Kids Hope mentors and have you get to know them better, I am beginning a new section of the newsletter called "Meet the Mentors." I hope this will give everyone a clearer vision of what Kids Hope is all about. If you ever have any questions about Kids Hope, you can ask me, or one of the wonderful volunteers who are currently mentoring children at Sanborn Elementary. I am sure they would be happy to share more about their experience with KHUSA.

MEET THE MENTORS

I am not sure which one of us was more nervous the first day we met; my new friend, Rachael, or me. It sure has been a long time since I had a third grade girl around (about 15 years). Okay, God, I am here, but now what do I do?? As usual, God opened up the doors to say, "Here, try this and see what happens." After several smiles, one hour of fun and games such as a "Getting to Know You" workbook, a game of "Go Fish," a tour of the school led by Rachael, and even a little school work thrown in, Rachael and I began our journey with Kids Hope.

Now, each week I look forward to Thursday when I know that as I peek into the classroom Rachael will jump up, run to greet me at the door, and give me a BIG hug and a smile that lights up my world. (Hmmmmmm...so THIS is what happens with a little trust in God!) We chat about our week gone by; she tells me about seeing a movie with her mom, her dream to design clothes when she grows up, her times with her sister, and her new friend, Trinity.

On the playground Rachael encourages her friend Trinity to join in a basketball game with us... "Come on Trinity, don't be shy, this is just my friend, Renee." I love the "just my friend" part because I know how hard it is to cross that friendship line at this age.

Oftentimes I am amazed at how mature she is for her young years as she relates life lessons that take some of us years and years to learn. Wow...the things I can learn from Rachael. I just bring a little snack, let her make most of the day's choices, spend time on the playground listening to children's laughter, and my job is done. Really, it's that easy, God? I am blessed and so thankful to God for allowing Rachael and I to make the Kids Hope journey together!

Renee McDermid,
Kids Hope USA Mentor and member of FCLC

Hi, my name is Duane Sharp. I am a Kids Hope mentor for a 5th grade student named Justin at Sanborn Elementary School.

Kids Hope provides a booklet called "All About Me" which is a great tool for getting to know someone. Justin and I spent the 1st two sessions just filling out this booklet. He filled out one for me, and I filled out one for him. The "All About Me" booklet asks questions like "What is your favorite color, food, sport," etc.

The question that made the biggest impact on me was "who is your best friend?" His answer was his cat. He is a lonely child and needs a friend. That is what I intend to be for him.

I have taught him our family card game called "Kings in the Corner." We are currently improving our chess skills together.

I am glad to do my little part with this organization, because I certainly see the need. Ed Smith supports our relationship with his prayers.

Duane Sharp
Kids Hope USA Mentor and member of FCLC

LaRae again:

Justin's teacher stopped me in the hallway yesterday at Sanborn, and said, "I can't tell you enough how wonderful this program is! Justin looks SO forward to his Tuesday meetings with Duane, and I don't know if there is a correlation, but he has had a lot fewer behavioral issues since joining Kids Hope."

Won't you consider spending one hour a week changing the life of a child? Let me know if you are interested in more information about Kids Hope USA. We will need new volunteers for the 2010-2011 school year! My email is larae@fclc.org.

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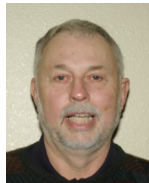
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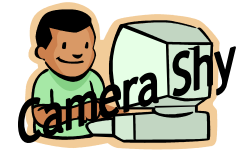
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